

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /084 W

-----230748 007930 /12

R 230704Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6127

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 0890

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, NG

SUBJECT: ACCORDS ON FRANCO-NIGERIEN BILATERAL ASSISTANCE

1. MINISTER OF COOPERATION ROBERT GALLEY WAS IN NIAMEY FEBRUARY 17 - 19 TO SIGN NEW FRENCH COOPERATION ACCORDS WITH NIGER. AGREEMENTS, WHICH HAVE BEEN UNDER NEGOTIATION FOR WELL OVER A YEAR, COVER MODALITIES OF COOPERATION IN VARIETY OF FIELDS SUCH AS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, JUSTICE, MILITARY COOPERATION AND EDUCATION. THEIR PURPOSE IS MORE TO CODIFY EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS IN INDIVIDUAL SECTORS THAN TO BREAK NEW GROUND IN FRANCO-NIGERIEN RELATIONS.

2. IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS DURING SIGNING CEREMONIES ON EARLIER OCCASIONS WHEN HE HAD VISITED NIAMEY IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACCORD, GALLEY STRESSED DEPTH OF CONFIDENTIAL

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FRENCH COMMITMENT TO ASSIST GOOD FRIENDS LIKE NIGER BUT ALSO EMPHASIZED RECOGNITION ON PART OF GOF THAT FRENCH ASSISTANCE BASED ON PREMISE OF QUOTE PERFECT INDEPENDENCE UNQUOTE OF BOTH DONOR AND RECIPIENT. GALLEY MOREOVER ARTFULLY DEFLATED EXPECTATIONS OF DRAMATIC NEW FRENCH INPUTS FOR PRESENT, NOTING THAT REQUIREMENT FOR MAINTAINING STRENGTH OF FRANC DICTATES ANTI-INFLATIONARY BUDGETS FOR

NEXT YEAR AND SOMEWHAT REDUCED AID OUTLAYS. ALL OF THIS, GALLEY SAID, IS IN INTEREST OF BOTH FRANCE AND NIGER.

3. FOR ITS PART, NIGER IS EMPHASIZING THAT NEW ACCORDS, WHICH REPLACE 1961 AGREEMENTS, PUT TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIP ON A MORE EQUAL FOOTING AND GIVE MORE EXPLICIT RECOGNITION TO NIGERIEN SOVEREIGNTY, ELIMINATING, FOR EXAMPLE, SUCH ANACHRONISMS AS GRANTING AUTOMATICALLY TO FRENCH THE DEANSHIP OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND FORMALIZING THE 1974 WITHDRAWAL OF FRENCH MILITARY GARRISON.

4. SYMBOLIC OF THE PRODUCTIVE AND RECIPROCAL BUT LESS THAN ALL-EMBRACING TIES WHICH BOTH FRANCE AND NIGER SEEM TO BE SEEKING IS FACT THAT THIS PARTICULAR MILESTONE WAS PASSED WITH RELATIVELY LITTLE FANFARE. FOREIGN MINISTER DJERMAKOYE SIGNED THE FINAL PROTOCOLS WITH GALLEY; KOUNTCHE WAS OUT OF TOWN ATTENDING A MINI-SUMMIT IN LOME.

5. WE WILL REPORT SIGNIFICANT DETAILS OF ACCORDS AS AVAILABLE.

JAMES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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